

## ABSTRACT

5 A diffractive optical element (DOE) is shown formed on a substrate. The DOE is characterized, in one embodiment, by being formed from a plurality of members that are each individually created on a top surface of the substrate. The members may be formed by depositing a poly-silicon material on the substrate or by growing a silicon crystal on the substrate and performing an etch step. The substrate  
10 may be formed of a sapphire crystal. The DOE may be used to reflect incident light traveling within the substrate under total internal reflection. The widths, spacing between, and heights of the strips forming the DOE may be designed so as to reflect the incident light within the substrate in a direction of propagation acute to that of the incident light.